



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

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Shell Internationale Research Maatschappij B.V.  
% Haseltine Lake & Co  
Imperial House  
15-19 Kingsway  
LONDON  
WC2B 6UD

**The Patent Office**  
Concept House  
Cardiff Road  
Newport  
South Wales  
NP10 8QQ

Examiner: 01633 814751

†E-mail: dave.pepper@patent.gov.uk

Switchboard: 01633 814000

Fax: 01633 814444

Your Reference: HL76202/ASG/par  
Application No: GB 0013661.4

23 October 2000

COMPUTER  
25 OCT 2000  
NOTED

Dear Sirs

**Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(5)**

I enclose two copies of my search report and a copy of the citations.

**Plurality of invention**

I consider that your application relates to more than one invention. However I have not listed the multitude of inventions disclosed in this application for the following reasons:-

- 1) prima facie the application does not comply with Section 14(5)(b) & (d), and
- 2) detailed lists have been set out in similar copending applications.

**Publication**

I estimate that, provided you have met all formal requirements, preparations for publication of your application will be completed soon after **21 November 2000**. You will then receive a letter informing you of completion and telling you the publication number and date of publication.

**Amendment/withdrawal**

If you wish to file amended claims for inclusion with the published application, or to withdraw the application to prevent publication, you must do so before the preparations for publication are completed. **No reminder will be issued.** If you write to the Office less than 3 weeks before the above completion date, please mark your letter prominently: **"URGENT - PUBLICATION IMMINENT"**.

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†Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



Application No: GB 0013661.4



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23 October 2000

Yours faithfully

David Pepper  
Examiner



Application No: GB 0013661.4  
Claims searched: 1

Examiner: David Pepper  
Date of search: 20 October 2000

**Patents Act 1977**  
**Search Report under Section 17**

**Databases searched:**

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:  
UK Cl (Ed.R): E1F FJT, FLA  
Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B  
Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

**Documents considered to be relevant:**

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	GB 2348657 A (Shell Int Research)	1
X,E	GB 2348223 A (Shell Int Research)	1
X,E	GB 2347952 A (Shell Int Research)	1
X,E	GB 2347950 A (Shell Int Research)	1
X,E	GB 2344606 A (Shell Int Research)	1
X	EP 0881354 A (Sofitech N.V.)	1
X	WO 99/35368 A (Shell Int Research) - see figure 4	1
X	WO 98/00626 A (Shell Int Research)	1

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.